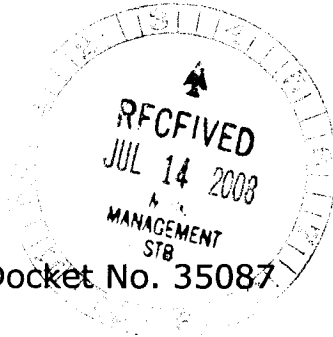


04110.070208.NOVAK. PCTZ. 60453. S. N. LTR
George Novak

9520 Mayfield Avenue
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

July 2, 2008

The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Esq.
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423



RE: CN Railway Company/EJ&E, STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

Action must be taken to address the issues surrounding community-wide train congestion. CN Railways is offering a solution by diverting trains to the outskirts of town. To do this, CN needs your approval to acquire the EJ&E line and I urge you to cooperate with this project.

I frequently encounter delays at train crossings. This represents a significant problem considering that I am retired and only venture out a couple times a week. The average wait is anywhere from 2 to 20 minutes. The Ridgeland crossing is the absolute worst in terms of blocked traffic. So much so that residents of Oak Lawn and surrounding areas try to avoid it as they know all too well that delays are inevitable.

In addition to the delays commuters must endure, there is also a major safety issue to consider. The traffic jams caused by trains affect ambulances going to Christ Hospital. I have seen ambulances turn around in traffic to seek alternate routes. First responders should not waste any time getting to emergencies. If you will only see fit to approve CN's purchase of the EJ&E line, the rail congestion and frequent delays could be relegated to the realm of memories versus everyday routine. Thank you for your support on this issue.

Sincerely,

George J. Novak

George Novak